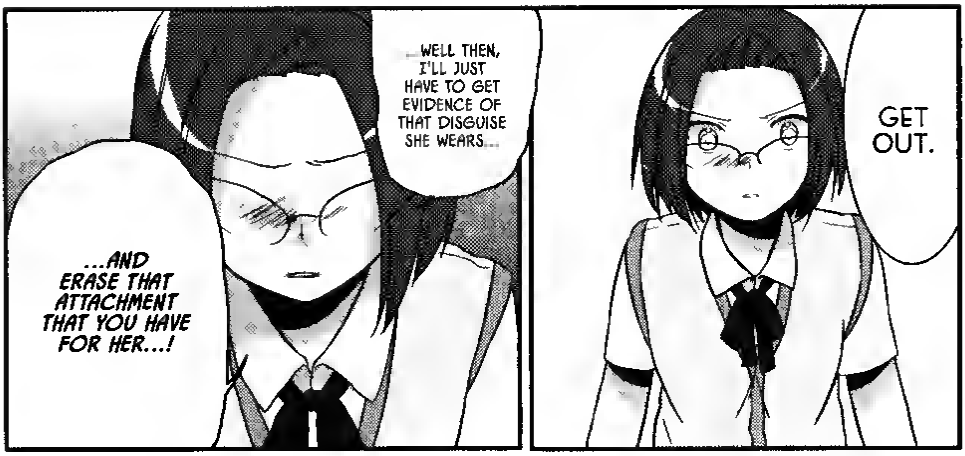
PRESIDENT! MAY I COME IN?!

HIMURO ERIKO-KUN...
...WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THE BOYS OF ROOM 204'S OF THE TACHIBANA DORM HAVE BROUGHT ZADOU SIERRA INTO THEIR ROOM!
THAT'S A VIOLATION OF DORM RULES!
HOW COULD THAT BE...?
IT'S TRUE!
I WORK PART TIME AT THAT PIZZA SHOP WHICH HAS A SPECIAL MENU THAT ZADOU SIERRA ORDERED FROM...
...SHE WAS ORDERING IT FOR THE ROOM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE TACHIBANA DORM...
THAT ROOM IS OCCUPIED BY HER CLASSMATES ARAKI JIN AND UTADA YUUYA.
IT MUST JUST HAVE BEEN SOME COMPASSION FOR ARAKI WHO WENT WITHOUT DINNER.
T-THAT KIND OF ATMOSPHERE WAS...

WOMEN ARE PROHIBITED FROM THE DORMS AND BRINGING IN OUTSIDE FOOD IS FORBIDDEN. THAT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE IN THE DORMS.
EVEN IF IT WAS SLANDER...?
MY WOMAN'S INTUITION IS TELLING ME THIS...
...ZADOU SIERRA IS JUST PUTTING ON AN ACT!
A LIKELY STORY...
Hm...
.....
...YOU MAY BE A FIGURE OF AUTHORITY, BUT...
...I DON'T THINK I CAN RECOGNIZE MATTERS WHERE YOUR PERSONAL FEELINGS LIE—
PERSONAL FEELINGS?

FOR YOU WHO SAY BOYS AND GIRLS FROM THE AGE OF SEVEN HAVE THE SAME PLACES...
...WHO KEEPS HIS DISTANCE AWAY FROM GIRLS, AND YET...
...YOU SENT A LOVE LETTER TO ZADOU SIERRA, AM I RIGHT?
WHA...
...WHAT NONSENSE ARE YOU SPOUTING?!
IT WAS FOUND WHILE YOUR ROOM WAS BEING CLEANED.
...SO YOU READ IT AS YOU PLEASED THEN...
Ahm...!
...AS THE VICE PRESI-DENT...
...IT IS MY OBLIGATION TO KNOW WHAT GOES ON WITH THE PRESIDENT.
EVEN YOU ARE THE SAME AS THOSE FOOLISH GIRLS...


GET OUT.
...WELL THEN, I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET EVIDENCE OF THAT DISGUISE SHE WEARS...
...AND ERASE THAT ATTACHMENT THAT YOU HAVE FOR HER...!

AH!
NEE-SAN!
KEITA?
ヒソヒソ
ペタ
ン…
……
DO YOU HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL?
YOU CAN CUT DOWN ON THE NUMBER OF JOBS YOU DO!

SIS... YOU COMMUTE HERE FROM HOME EVEN THOUGH IT'S FAR AS A SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT...
AND YOU WORK UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT SO I CAN STAY IN THE DORMS, DON'T YOU?
JUST SO I CAN USE MY TIME FOR STUDYING...
HUH? WHY?
OF COURSE I WOULD! FOR THAT REASON, I'LL WORK AS HARD AS I CAN!
AND YOU EVEN STUDY LATE AT NIGHT AFTER YOUR JOB
SIS, YOUR EYES HAVE GOTTEN REALLY BAD BECAUSE OF THAT
BUT YOU SEE, I'M A MODEL BOARDING STUDENT
THAT'S WHY THE DORM HEAD SAYS HE'S RECOMMENDING ME FOR EXEMPTION FROM BOARDING EXPENSES!
I CAME TO SEE THE DORM HEAD TO ASK HIM ABOUT IT!
A MODEL STUDENT?!
THAT'S AMAZING! AS EXPECTED OF MY LITTLE BROTHER!

E-EXCUSE ME...
カチ
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, HIMURO
GO RIGHT AHEAD!
YEAH!
DON'T BE RUDE TO THE DORM HEAD, OKAY?
T-THAT LAMP...
I SNUCK THAT OUT OF ARAKI-SENPAI'S ROOM UNDER YOUR ORDERS, BUT— WAS IT REALLY OKAY?
HERE S THE RECOM-MENDATION I WROTE.
T-THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

HUH?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ZADOU SIERRA?
I CAN'T USE SOMEONE RARE LIKE YOUR SISTER WHO DISLIKES ZADOU SIERRA, BUT...
...YOU, I CAN USE.
IT'S FORBIDDEN TO BRING PERSONAL EFFECTS IN.
ZADOU-SENPAI, YOU SAY?
WOULD YOU CONFESS TO HER?
THERE'S NO WAY I WOULD! SHE'S FROM A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WORLD!
THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE THINKS!
W-WELL...
I DO THINK SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL PERSON...
...AND I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMEONE AS PRETTY AS HER...

W-WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I TOO, AM FAMILIAR WITH THAT.
YOU ARE WORRIED THAT YOUR PRIDE WILL BE HURT IF SHE REJECTS YOU.
HUH? NO THAT WASN'T MY INTENTION
SO YOU AREN'T BRAVE ENOUGH TO TAKE THE RISK OF HAVING YOURSELF GET JILTED THEN?
THE SENTIMENT OF FALLING IN LOVE CANNOT BE CONTROLLED BY REASON!
THERE IS NO NEED TO RESTRAIN YOURSELF IN GETTING YOUR HANDS ON WHAT YOU WANT. THAT'S HOW IT IS.
OW...!

IT'S SPLIT-TING...
...MY HEAD IS SPLITTING!
はぁ
はぁ
THAT'S RIGHT! FREE YOUR HEART FROM REASON!
HOLD BACK YOUR CONSCIOUS SELF AND UNLEASH YOUR DORMANT SIDE!
AAAA-AAAA-GGH!
HUMANS BY NATURE ARE CAPABLE OF ACQUIRING STRENGTH SEVERAL TIMES OVER THEIR OWN!
AH...
.....
...ZA-DOU-SENPAI...
KUKU-KUKU...
...IT'S FINE TO COME ZADOU SIERRA...

YOU CAN BRING THAT MAN ALONG AS WELL...!
HERE'S A PLATE OF PERSIAN CURRY!
AH, NO... I JUST CAME BY TO LOOK FOR YUUYA...
BE-SIDES, I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY MONEY...
IT'S FREE IF YOU CAN FINISH IT OFF IN UNDER 10 MINUTES!
EAT LOADS UNTIL YOU'RE PLUMP...!
PLUMP...?

I WASN'T! I WASN'T!
……
だら だら
AH...
...YOU WEREN'T GOING TO EAT ME, WERE YOU?
はた
I'M GOING HOME...
WAIT!
WHA...?!
THAT REALLY HURT! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
JUST TAKE YOUR TIME AND GET EATEN--NO! I MEAN LET'S FEED YOU--NO! JUST EAT FIRST AND THEN YOU CAN LEAVE!
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO EAT ME SO MUCH THAT YOU SLIPPED UP TWICE?!
!

だっ
YOU! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR SHOULDER...?!
THE LYMPH NODE IS SWELLING! BYE NOW!
ガラッ
Haa...
Haa...
.....
ZA-DOU...?
IT'S ZADOU!
AND SHE'S JUST IN PLAIN CLOTHES!

HUH?
...YOU... DID YOU GIVE THE LAMP TO ANYONE?
Haa...
L-LET'S GO OUT-SIDE...
AH! HOLD IT! WHAT ABOUT THE CURRY?!
LAMP?
AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO VIO-LATED THAT SECRET!
WATCH WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IN FRONT OF OTHERS!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED TO KEEP THE LAMP A SECRET!
...RIGHT. HERE IS GOOD.

I NEVER HANDED THAT LAMP TO ANYBODY.
HOWEVER... YOU SAID IT'D BE EMBARASSING IF ANYONE FOUND OUT SO I'VE BEEN KEEPING YOUR SECRET SAFE.
YOU CERTAINLY ARE A NUISANCE!
YOU PUSHED IT ONTO SOMEONE ELSE BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT I'M A NUISANCE!
YOU GAVE THE LAMP TO SOMEONE ELSE, DIDN'T YOU?!
I'LL SHOW YOU THE LAMP.
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME THEN LET'S GO TO THE DORM.
BUT... WHAT ABOUT THE PHONE CALL FROM THE GUY WHO TOOK THE LAMP?
VERY WELL.
...YOU BETTER SHOW ME THAT LAMP, GOT IT?!

PROSTRATING
.....
...YOU LOST IT...?
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
HOW DO YOU LOSE SOMETHING IN THAT SMALL, CRAMPED ROOM?!
I DON'T KNOW!
I WASN'T GOING TO CALL YOU A SECOND TIME SO I THREW IT INTO THE TRASH BIN...
SO YOU THREW IT AWAY?!
COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN THE TRASH COLLECTORS?
NO . THE REST OF THE TRASH IS STILL IN THERE
.. IN OTHER WORDS, THE GUY WHO CALLED YOU MUST HAVE STOLEN IT
THERE COULD BE A THIEF IN THE DORM .
Gaaaaaaw!
WHO'S THAT NUMB-SKULL?!
DO LADIES EVEN SAY NUMBSKULL?

THAT HALF WIT SAID THAT IF HE SUMMONS ME, HE'LL KEEP ME WITH HIM AND WILL NEVER RUB MY HEAD...
IF HE DOESN'T RUB YOUR HEAD, THEN THE SATISFACTION GAUGE WON'T INCREASE...
...YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GO HOME.
THAT'S IT... IN OTHER WORDS, HE PLANS ON IMPRISONING YOU!
UUU... UWAAAH!
I DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN!
I'D RATHER BITE OFF MY OWN TONGUE AND DIE!
THAT'S FINE AND ALL, BUT DON'T YOU THINK THERE ARE OTHER METHODS?
SO SHOULD I JUST BUY A BOMB AND DESTROY THE WORLD THEN?
HOW ABOUT ONE THAT LETS YOU RETRIEVE THE LAMP AFTER?

WELL, THAT PERSON DID SAY THAT HE'D RETURN THE LAMP IF I WERE TO COME AT MIDNIGHT, BUT... LURKING AROUND IN THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT..
I GUESS THINGS LIKE PERVERTS WOULD BE PRETTY SCARY, HUH?
THAT'S NOT IT!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M AFRAID OF GHOSTS POPPING OUT OF NOWHERE OR ANYTHING...!
...GHOSTS...?
GHOSTS...
UBUGU-FUFUFU...
W-WHAT?!
IN ANY CASE... IF A CERTAIN SOMEONE HADN'T LOST THE MAGIC LAMP IN THE FIRST THEN I WOULDN'T BE FEELING THIS WAY AT ALL...
UH...

I'LL GO WITH YOU.
I GET IT.
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.
COM-MONER...!
I'M SO GLAD...!
THOUGH IT WAS A BIT PATCHY, WE MANAGED TO RECONCILE...
...NOW, I CAN TALK TO THE COMMONER ONCE MORE!

TAKING RESPONSIBILITY IS THE MANLY THING TO DO!
ヒョオオオオオ
.....
...THAT'S WEIRD.
Hii...!
WHAT'S WEIRD?!

EVEN THOUGH THE GUARDS SHOULD BE PATROLLING AROUND, THERE ISN'T EVEN A SINGLE LIGHT ON...
THE GATE IS UNLOCKED TOO
WAS IT BECAUSE WE CAME?
ガラ…
ANY-WAY, QUIT CLINGING ON TO ME!
LIKE I SAID, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SCARED...
ガラ
ガラ
カバ
ニャ
!?

...WE GOT LOCKED IN.
Uu...
Uu...
JUST AS I EXPECTED...
...I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T BE COMING ALONE.
...DORM HEAD...?
HMPH!
AH! THE LAMP! HE'S THE CRIMINAL!
DORM HEAD! WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!

Shuffle...
Shuffle...
!
12
WHAT THE...?!
THESE GUYS...

ジャジャジャ!
That's just a teapot!
H-Here's the lamp.

BAKA-NEKO

PuiPui! by Midori Natsu
Chapter 08

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